

Salt River Fire Department Operating Guidelines

Clear Text Radio Communications

April 2000

205.02

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Purpose

To provide a common language to be used by the Communications Center and field units while responding to and operating on emergency incidents.

Clear Text and Definitions:

Unit Status:

Responding – Enroute to an assignment.

On-scene – Arrival at an incident.

Committed – Unit not available for any other service due to commitment to a specific emergency or non-emergency incident.

Available – Unit is available for response to subsequent requests for service.

Available On-scene – Unit is available for response from an emergency incident.

Out-of-Service – Unit is not available for responses due to mechanical problems.

In-Service – Unit is available for responses after mechanical problems have been corrected.

In Quarters – Unit is back in its quarters or in another station's quarters.

Acknowledgements:

Affirmative – Agreement or confirmation of a statement made by another unit or Dispatcher.

Negative – A response to a statement made by another unit or Dispatcher that indicates no agreement.

Copy – Confirmation or information received.

Copy Emergency Traffic – A signal from the Dispatcher or field unit that identifies a request for radio silence and the dispatch of emergency resources.

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Response Modes:

Code Three – Unit responding with lights and sirens activated.

Code Two – Unit responding in a normal mode, no emergency warning systems activated.

Staging:

Level One Staging – Units are to be placed at the scene as follows:

1. First unit on arrival to the scene.
2. Second unit upon arrival to the closest water source facing in the direction of the scene.
3. Third Unit on arrival stages at a second water source facing in the direction of the scene.

Level Two Staging – Units placed in a specific staging area away from the incident, managed by a Staging Area Officer.

Level Three Staging – Units placed in fire stations adjacent to the incidents. These units are **not** available for other emergency responses but rather only to the incident.

Unit Designators:

Engine – A unit that carries water, a pump, hose, ground ladders, and firefighters.

Truck – A unit that carries water, a pump, hose, ground ladders, and firefighters, but also has an aerial ladder attached to the top of the apparatus.

Rescue – A unit, which is utilized to transport sick and injured persons. These units may or may not carry fire suppression systems.

Attack – A unit, which carries a limited amount of water and pumping capacity. May have special capabilities such as four-wheel drive.

Squad – A unit that has moderate fire suppression capabilities and also has the capability to transport sick and injured persons. May have special capabilities such as heavy rescue tools and equipment.